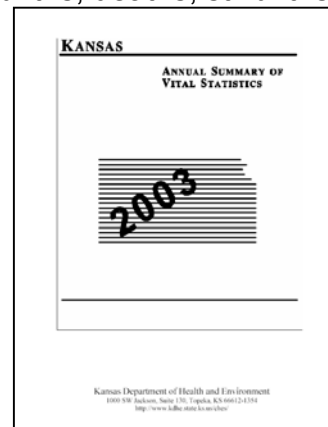


2003 Vital Statistics Report Available

Kansas Annual Summary of Vital Statistics 2003, published by the KDHE Center for Health and Environmental Statistics (CHES), is a summary of data compiled from vital records for the calendar year 2003. It is KDHE's official annual report of live births, deaths, stillbirths, abortions, marriages and marriage dissolutions documented by certificates and reports filed with CHES.

The report contains approximately 160 pages of aggregate vital statistics for the state, all 105 counties and selected cities. The narrative, data tables, and graphics highlight some of the more interesting statistics and provide more information from each of the databases.



Some of the highlights include:

- The Kansas infant mortality rate, the ratio of infant deaths to live births, tied with the 2000 rate for the lowest ever recorded. There were 39,353 live births and 262 infant deaths to Kansas residents in 2003. This resulted in an infant mortality rate of 6.7 deaths per 1,000 live births and was a decrease of 6.9 percent from the infant mortality rate of 7.2 in 2002.
- The pregnancy rate for females ages 10-19 decreased 24.1 percent from 34.8 pregnancies per 1,000 female age-group population in 1994 to 26.4 in 2003. Teen pregnancy rates for females ages 10-17 decreased 34.0 percent during the same time period. Pregnancy rates for 10-19 year old black mothers fell more steeply (down 42.5 percent) from 1994-2003 than rates for other population groups.
- For the first time since deaths were collected (1911), there were no maternal deaths to Kansas residents in 2003.
- Couples in Kansas had fewer marriages in 2003, continuing a general downward trend that began in 1993. In 2003, 18,722 marriages occurred in Kansas, a decrease of 5.4 percent from the 2002 total of 19,783. The marriage rate (6.9 per 1,000 population) decreased 17.9 percent from the 1994 rate of 8.4. The number of marriage dissolutions (divorces and annulments) also continued a downward trend that began in the early 1990s.

Many additional statistics on live births, deaths, stillbirths, abortions, marriages and marriage dissolutions not contained in this report are also available upon request.

The 2003 Annual Summary is available in a PDF format at the KDHE Web site, <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/hci/annsumm.html>. Requests for single, printed copies of the *Annual Summary of Vital Statistics* should be made to the KDHE Office of Health Care Information at 785-296-8627.